**Tax collection on crude oil import**

†1256. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's tax collection on import of crude oil during the first nine months of the current year is more than the collection during the first nine months of the last year; and

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The tax collection on import of crude oil during the first nine months of the current year (2002-2003) and corresponding period of last year are Rs. 4848* crore and Rs. 3803* crore respectively. During this period, the tax collection on import of crude oil has shown the increase of Rs. 1045* crore in 2002-2003 over 2001-2002. This increase is registered due to substantial growth in quantity and international price of imported crude oil during current year over respective period of last year. The marginal increase in exchange rate during said period was also a factor affecting the revenue collection from imported crude oil.

*The figures are provisional.

**Levy of ATF sales tax on domestic airlines**

1257. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign airlines are exempted from levy of duties and taxes on fuel uplifted from and through India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Air India and Indian Airlines have to pay the aviation turbine fuel (ATF) sales tax;

(c) if so, the reasons for variance; and

(d) what steps are being taken not to levy the ATF sales tax on both the domestic airlines too?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.